

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00
CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-10 L-03 ACDA-12 NSAE-00 PA-01
SS-15 SP-02 TRSE-00 /061 W
-----125864 061524Z /43

O R 061456Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3814
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO USMISSION USNATO
CINCUSAFE IMMEDIATE
USCINCEUR
USNMR SHAPE
HQ 3AF RAF MILDENHALL

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 LONDON 03571

DEFENSE FOR OASD/ISA: FMR; OASD/PA; CSAF/01/XO

E. O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: UK NATO MPOL MILI
SUBJECT: RAF GREENHAM COMMON

REF: LONDON 3020

1. HOLTON, HEAD DS-8, CALLED POL-MIL ATTACHE ON
URGENT BASIS ASKING IF ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS PUT IN
REFTEL AS WELL AS ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS COULD BE
PROVIDED ASAP. WE HAVE NOW RECEIVED LETTER LISTING

FURTHER QUERIES FROM DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING OF
BERKSHIRE AS FOLLOWS:

A. CURRENT AND LIKELY FUTURE CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS
AT THE BASE, INCLUDING ANY ADDITIONAL WORK LIKELY TO
BE NECESSARY IF THE PROPOSED CHANGE IN ROLE IS APPROVED
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THE PROBABLE PROGRAM FOR EACH OF THE PROJECTS AND AN
ESTIMATE OF THE CIVILIAN WORK FORCE REQUIRED ON SUCH
PROJECTS.

B. THE NUMBER OF PERSONNEL (IF ANY) LIKELY TO BE
EMPLOYED IN "OFF-BASE" SUPPORT SERVICES.

C. THE LIKELY TIMING OF THE BUILD-UP OF ADDITIONAL
PERSONNEL EMPLOYED AT THE BASE IF THE PROPOSED CHANGE

IN ROLE IS APPROVED.

I. MILITARY

II. CIVILIAN

D. OF THOSE TO BE EMPLOYED AT THE BASE, HOW MANY CIVILIANS ARE LIKELY TO REQUIRE ACCOMMODATION AWAY FROM THE BASE?

E. CONCERNING AIRCRAFT FLIGHT PATHS TO BE USED, THE

I. HEIGHT AT VARIOUS POINTS ALONG FLIGHT PATH

II. EXTENT TO WHICH EACH OF THE FLIGHT PATHS

IS LIKELY TO BE USED FOR TAKE-OFFS AND LANDINGS.

F. NOISE READINGS (PREFERABLY EXPRESSED IN TERMS OF PNDB) OF KC-135 STRATO-TANKERS AND THE LIKELY PATTERN OF NOISE OVER WEST BERKSHIRE IN RELATION TO:

I. ENGINE TESTING AND MAINTENANCE WORK AT THE BASE. (IS IT ALSO CORRECT THAT NOISE SUPPRESSORS WILL NOT BE FITTED TO MUCH AIRCRAFT DURING MAINTENANCE WORK?

G. WOULD NOISE ATTENUATION MEASURES BE TAKEN AT BASE, AT LEAST AROUND THE MAINTENANCE AREA, IF THE CURRENTLY PROPOSED CHANGE IN ROLE FOR THE BASE TAKES PLACE? WHAT FORM WOULD THESE MEASURES TAKE AND HOW EFFECTIVE ARE THEY LIKELY TO BE IN REDUCING NOISE?

H. SAFETY ASPECTS, INCLUDING ANY POSSIBLE CHANGES TO SAFEGUARDING RESTRICTIONS AROUND THE BASE; THE IMPOSITION OF PUBLIC SAFETY ZONES AND THE IDENTIFICATION OF AREAS LIKELY TO BE AT RISK FROM EXPLOSIONS OR FIRES, WHETHER AT THE BASE ITSELF OR FROM AIRCRAFT
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ACCIDENTS AT THE APPROACHES TO THE BASE; AND ANY INFORMATION ABOUT ACCIDENT RECORDS FOR KC 135 STRATO-TANKERS. COULD YOU CONFIRM WHETHER THE FUEL INVOLVED IS A TYPE THAT IS ACCEPTABLE AT CIVIL AIRPORTS?

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 LONDON 03571

2. ON 1 MARCH, MULLEY MET WITH WELLBELOVED, HOLTON AND OTHER SENIOR OFFICERS TO DISCUSS GREENHAM COMMON. THEY AGREED TO MAINTAIN A PUBLIC POSTURE THAT NO DECISION VIS-A-VIS GREENHAM COMMON HAS BEEN MADE. IN THE MEANWHILE, MOD WANTS TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT OTHER ALTERNATIVE LOCATIONS WHICH USAF MAY HAVE CONSIDERED AND REJECTED SO THAT MINISTERS CAN BE MADE AWARE OF THIS WHEN THEY COME TO TAKE A FINAL DECISION. MULLEY SPECIFICALLY REFERRED TO FAIRFORD WHERE, ACCORDING TO HOLTON, THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND MP WOULD WELCOME THE USAF.

3. IN THE SUNDAY PRESS, THE OBSERVER FOR 5 MARCH CARRIED AN ARTICLE, UNDER THE BANNER "TOWN ANGRY AT US AIR BASE" REPORTING THE 4 MARCH PUBLIC DEMONSTRATION AT NEWBURY OPPOSING REACTIVATION OF GREENHAM COMMON. ACCORDING TO THIS PRESS REPORT, A 1,000-STRONG MARCH
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TOOK PLACE AND WAS THE "CLIMAX OF TWO WEEKS OF MOUNTING ANGER..."

4. MCNAIR-WILSON, MP FOR NEWBURY, HAS REQUESTED TO SEE BOTH MULLEY AND THE AMBASSADOR ON 20 MARCH. HE WILL HEAD A DEPUTATION OF CONCERNED CITIZENS. UNLESS INSTRUCTED OTHERWISE, WE PLAN SIMPLY TO HEAR HIM OUT.

BREWSTER

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